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# Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board  
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## Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

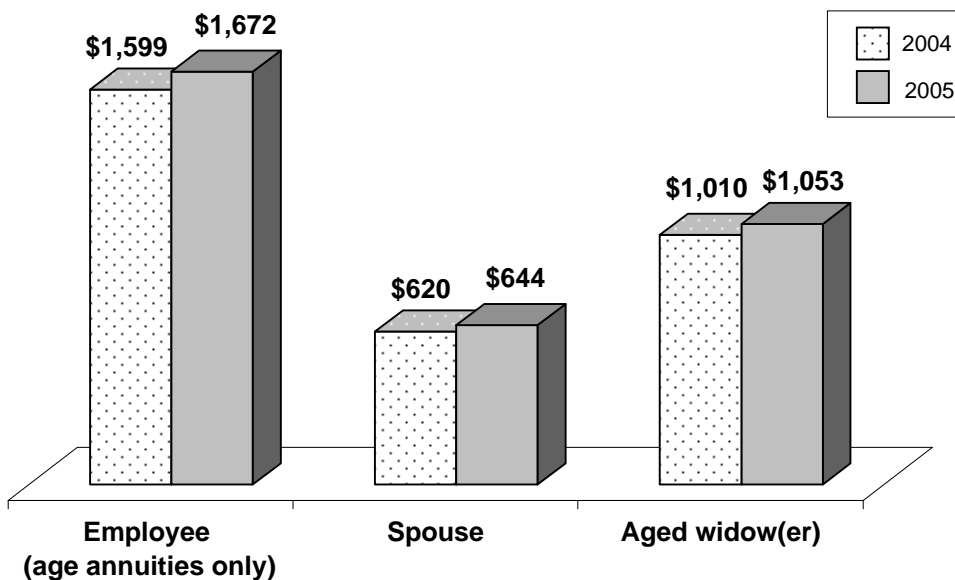
Selected Current Statistics for January - March 2005

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**Average annuity amounts being paid,  
March 2004 and March 2005**



**Note.**--Includes cost-of-living increase payable in January.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics  
January - March 2005**

Period	Total <sup>1</sup>		Employee annuities				Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse annuities
			Age	Disability <sup>2</sup>		Supple- mental		
	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries		Under full retirement age	Full retirement age and over			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2005	727,356	595,484	202,019	48,595	35,034	124,640	137,721	3,451
February 2005	729,649	597,379	202,673	48,301	35,139	125,020	138,136	3,453
January 2005	730,998	598,555	202,995	48,253	35,190	125,191	138,364	3,446
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2005	.....	.....	\$1,672.32	\$2,011.46	\$1,526.93	\$41.82	\$644.15	\$390.50
February 2005	.....	.....	1,669.06	2,008.64	1,522.94	41.83	643.18	389.16
January 2005	.....	.....	1,665.59	2,007.70	1,519.55	41.84	642.50	388.52
Number awarded during period								
March 2005	3,170	2,711	629	453	.....	459	771	52
February 2005	3,460	2,920	806	405	.....	540	736	50
January 2005	3,412	2,842	807	371	.....	570	790	39
10/04 - 3/05	18,264	15,346	4,019	2,276	.....	2,918	4,304	227
10/03 - 3/04	17,992	15,270	3,853	2,328	.....	2,722	4,114	195
Average amount awarded during period <sup>3</sup>								
March 2005	.....	.....	\$2,191.25	\$2,228.63	.....	\$41.02	\$726.63	\$458.08
February 2005	.....	.....	2,170.78	2,205.91	.....	41.51	720.39	414.80
January 2005	.....	.....	2,270.54	2,257.31	.....	41.15	760.79	512.70
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
March 2005	\$770,776	.....	\$338,705	\$103,595	\$53,335	\$5,256	\$89,571	\$1,422
February 2005	768,125	.....	338,606	101,412	53,306	5,219	89,742	1,415
January 2005	768,411	.....	338,763	101,514	53,191	5,291	90,182	1,425
10/04 - 3/05	4,569,727	.....	2,012,762	601,816	315,638	31,576	534,048	8,309
10/03 - 3/04	4,483,557	.....	1,976,858	564,276	309,156	32,052	526,632	8,043

<sup>1</sup>Includes dependent parents' and survivor (option) annuities. Except for benefit payment data, excludes insurance lump-sum and residual payment figures. Benefit payments also include hospital insurance benefits for services in Canada. <sup>2</sup>Full retirement age, also known as normal retirement age, is gradually increasing from age 65 to age 67 over a 22 year period. For those born 1/2/1940-1/1/1941, the normal retirement age is 65 and 6 months. <sup>3</sup>Regular employee and spouse annuity averages are preliminary estimates.

**NOTE** --MONTHLY BENEFITS in CURRENT-PAYMENT STATUS at the end of month include all benefits awarded to date and payable for the month.

BENEFITS AWARDED consist of those certified for the first time on either a partial or final basis.

BENEFIT PAYMENTS for a month, shown in both the benefit and financial statistics, consist of recurrent monthly checks dated the first of the month, plus retroactive and lump-sum payments made during the month, less returned checks (excluding those not yet distributed by Account), refunds of benefits paid previously, etc. Data are on a cash basis (unaudited) and are partly estimated.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics  
January - March 2005 -- Continued**

Survivor benefits								
Period	Annuities					Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2005	143,214	4,885	946	5,121	9,576	12,100	.....	.....
February 2005	144,069	4,897	1,038	5,151	9,608	12,111	.....	.....
January 2005	144,656	4,901	1,040	5,187	9,610	12,111	.....	.....
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2005	\$1,052.64	\$890.35	\$1,326.23	\$697.72	\$694.01	\$789.37	.....	.....
February 2005	1,050.69	885.57	1,344.75	696.71	695.25	789.06	.....	.....
January 2005	1,047.68	884.06	1,348.96	696.36	693.55	787.67	.....	.....
Number awarded during period								
March 2005	625	30	16	14	69	51	483	3
February 2005	711	19	20	15	90	68	402	2
January 2005	675	18	18	16	53	53	353	-----
10/04 - 3/05	3,529	126	81	95	396	287	2,329	22
10/03 - 3/04	3,801	109	84	123	357	303	2,526	31
Average amount awarded during period <sup>3</sup>								
March 2005	\$1,393.40	\$1,353.77	\$1,178.41	\$966.29	\$736.90	\$899.63	\$893	\$2,694
February 2005	1,371.61	1,348.70	848.12	719.00	748.24	950.75	878	5,352
January 2005	1,356.48	1,242.05	1,060.49	704.48	712.23	1,000.51	867	-----
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
March 2005	\$151,676	\$4,764	\$1,522	\$3,624	\$6,858	\$9,942	\$448	\$8
February 2005	151,612	4,523	1,482	3,623	6,837	9,932	365	11
January 2005	151,407	4,471	1,526	3,615	6,702	9,964	313	-----
10/04 - 3/05	906,715	27,093	9,004	21,541	40,060	58,712	2,126	65
10/03 - 3/04	910,016	26,543	8,729	21,401	38,288	58,937	2,303	94

**NOTE.**--(Continued from previous page.)

FOR WIDOWS and WIDOWERS aged 60 and over and WIDOWED MOTHERS and FATHERS, the number of benefits being paid and benefit payments include benefits temporarily being continued at spouse annuity rates, pending award of survivor annuities.

INSURANCE LUMP SUMS and RESIDUAL PAYMENTS are each counted only once with respect to an employee's death even though divided among 2 or more persons. Award data for insurance lump sums exclude deferred benefits, i.e., those payable a year after the employee's death.

Data on benefit payments are for CALENDAR MONTHS; all other data are for ACCOUNTING MONTHS ending on approximately the 22nd of each month.

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics**  
**January - March 2005 (In thousands)**  
**Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	March 2005	February 2005	January 2005	October 2004 - March 2005	October 2003 - March 2004
<b>RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT</b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period<sup>1</sup></b>	\$475,070	\$452,036	\$340,379	\$625,621	\$502,210
<b>Income, total</b>	443,436	443,319	523,623	2,353,942	2,993,784
Payroll taxes <sup>2</sup>	223,065	235,189	191,949	1,104,295	1,090,852
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>	.....	.....	73,000	173,000	173,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	99,233	99,167	100,598	588,566	581,775
Transfers from National RR Investment Trust <sup>4</sup>	120,000	108,000	157,000	484,000	1,140,044
Transfer from SSEB Account <sup>4</sup>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments <sup>5</sup>	-64	27	39	-20	-12
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury <sup>6</sup>	30	24	35	188	233
Interest on investments <sup>7</sup>	1,172	913	1,002	3,914	7,892
<b>Outgo, total</b>	410,355	420,285	411,966	2,471,412	2,998,002
Benefit payments-regular	304,903	302,339	301,953	1,809,153	1,766,563
Benefit payments-supplemental	5,256	5,219	5,291	31,576	32,052
Payments of SSA benefits	99,176	99,174	100,538	588,491	581,632
Transfers to National RR Investment Trust <sup>4</sup>	.....	.....	.....	.....	586,000
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Administrative expenses <sup>8</sup>	844	12,978	3,711	40,025	29,927
Funding for Office of Inspector General	177	575	472	2,167	1,828
<b>Balance at end of period<sup>1</sup></b>	508,150	475,070	452,036	508,150	497,993
<b>NATIONAL RAILROAD RETIREMENT INVESTMENT TRUST</b>					
<b>Cash and investment balance at end of period<sup>9</sup></b>	\$26,317,712	\$26,830,698	\$26,459,043	\$26,317,712	\$25,429,224
<b>DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT<sup>9</sup></b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period</b>	\$1,694	\$1,768	-\$27,589	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments <sup>11</sup>	8,023	8,967	36,418	\$50,409	\$55,227
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>	.....	.....	2,000	5,000	6,000
Vested dual benefit payments	8,897	9,041	9,062	54,589	60,256
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	820	1,694	1,768	820	971

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics**  
**January - March 2005 (In thousands)**  
**Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued**

Item	March 2005	February 2005	January 2005	October 2004 - March 2005	October 2003 - March 2004
<b>SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT</b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period</b>	\$800,644	\$794,472	\$748,454	\$698,189	\$674,606
<b>Income, total</b>	481,597	462,043	499,500	2,820,417	2,728,624
Payroll taxes <sup>2</sup>	204,024	215,735	180,566	1,126,418	1,040,843
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>	.....	.....	31,000	61,000	65,000
Financial interchange advances <sup>12</sup>	275,853	244,676	286,011	1,626,749	1,614,106
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments <sup>7</sup>	1,721	1,631	1,923	6,251	8,675
<b>Outgo, total</b>	452,048	455,871	453,482	2,688,413	2,635,824
Benefit payments	451,720	451,526	452,105	2,674,409	2,624,687
Repayment of financial interchange advances <sup>12</sup>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Transfer to Railroad Retirement Account <sup>4</sup>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Administrative expenses <sup>8</sup>	270	4,160	1,225	13,311	10,567
Funding for Office of Inspector General	57	185	152	693	571
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	830,194	800,644	794,472	830,194	767,406

<sup>1</sup>Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of March 2005, liabilities were \$9,543,000. <sup>2</sup>Net of U.S. Treasury adjustments for payroll tax refunds to certain carriers and their employees for prior periods. <sup>3</sup>Amounts include U.S. Treasury adjustments for prior calendar year income tax reconciliations. <sup>4</sup>Under the Railroad Retirement and Survivors' Improvement Act of 2001, as amended, the portion of the RR Account not needed to pay current administrative expenses is to be transferred to the National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust (Trust). The Trust may transfer funds back to the RR Account for payment of benefits. The balance of the SSEB Account not needed to pay current benefits and administrative expenses is to be transferred to the Trust or to the RR Account. <sup>5</sup>Net of amounts distributed by account. <sup>6</sup>Net of returns of uncashed check credits. Includes undistributed canceled checks under 1-year limited payability. <sup>7</sup>Net of adjustments for payroll tax refunds (see note 2). <sup>8</sup>Reflects adjustments for prior periods. <sup>9</sup>Source: National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust. <sup>10</sup>Total vested dual benefits paid during a fiscal year are limited to the amount appropriated to the Dual Benefits Payments Account for that year. Any amounts not spent are returned to the U.S. Treasury. The benefit appropriation for fiscal year 2005 was \$107.1 million, including income tax transfers. The benefit appropriation for fiscal year 2004 was \$118.3 million. <sup>11</sup>Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks. <sup>12</sup>Includes interest.

NOTE.--Data relate to CALENDAR month.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

**Table 3: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics  
January - March 2005**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
Unemployment						
March 2005	524	558	227	3,811	3,379	507
February 2005	670	1,093	253	4,181	3,811	470
January 2005	1,531	1,171	779	4,409	4,334	319
7/04 - 3/05	9,055	7,362	1,655	8,228	8,158	813
7/03 - 3/04	11,621	9,506	1,749	10,538	10,424	837
Sickness						
March 2005	1,653	1,334	518	6,094	5,207	1,189
February 2005	1,456	1,011	689	5,836	5,253	968
January 2005	1,422	1,080	1,084	6,377	6,318	496
7/04 - 3/05	20,175	15,850	2,801	16,811	16,570	2,134
7/03 - 3/04	21,866	17,169	3,162	18,164	17,953	2,415
	Number of payments			Averages <sup>1</sup>		Benefit payments (thousands)
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week	
Unemployment						
March 2005	7,579	6,410	1,169	8.9	\$276.45	\$3,281
February 2005	7,055	6,174	881	8.8	277.10	3,253
January 2005	7,317	6,888	429	8.6	277.20	3,931
7/04 - 3/05	50,074	45,975	4,099	8.9	276.35	24,847
7/03 - 3/04	61,873	58,076	3,797	8.8	271.75	31,254
Sickness						
March 2005	12,703	9,954	2,749	8.7	\$276.85	\$3,522
February 2005	10,515	8,721	1,794	8.7	277.90	1,574
January 2005	12,522	11,889	633	8.8	276.95	5,229
7/04 - 3/05	108,699	100,028	8,671	8.9	279.15	34,676
7/03 - 3/04	118,918	109,193	9,725	8.9	273.35	38,366

<sup>1</sup>Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week--equal to 5 times average daily benefit.

**NOTE**.--An unemployment claimant files only one APPLICATION for a benefit year. A sickness claimant files an APPLICATION at the beginning of each period of continuing sickness.

NORMAL BENEFIT ACCOUNTS are opened when the first payment is made.

The number of BENEFICIARIES is the count of persons receiving unemployment or sickness benefits in the period. Those receiving both normal and extended benefits for unemployment or sickness are counted only once in the total for each type.

PAYMENTS generally cover 14-day registration periods. Benefits are payable for days over 7 during an employee's first 14-day registration period. Sickness benefits are paid for days of sickness after the 4th consecutive day of sickness in the first claim in each period of continuing sickness; for subsequent registration periods in the same period of continuing sickness, payments are made for all days of sickness over 4 whether or not consecutive. Unemployment benefits are paid for days of unemployment over 4. However, in the case of unemployment benefits due to a legal authorized strike, unemployment benefits are not paid until after a 14-day waiting period. Non-strikers unemployed due to an illegal strike must also serve a 14-day waiting period.

(Continued on next page.)

**Table 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics**  
**January - March 2005 (In thousands)**  
**Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	March 2005	February 2005	January 2005	October 2004 - March 2005	October 2003 - March 2004
<b>RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT</b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period</b>	\$94,081	\$92,241	\$85,901	\$83,537	\$47,921
<b>Income, total</b>	-435	6,882	15,680	45,480	73,673
Contributions	214	6,529	15,111	43,884	66,085
Interest on investments	54	55	67	1,564	1,343
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments <sup>1</sup>	-703	297	503	32	-363
Transfers from Administration Fund	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,608
<b>Outgo, total</b>	6,869	5,042	9,340	42,241	50,352
Unemployment benefit payments	3,281	3,253	3,931	18,330	24,174
Sickness benefit payments	3,522	1,574	5,229	22,950	25,501
Funding for Office of Inspector General	66	215	179	961	677
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	86,776	94,081	92,241	86,776	71,242
<b>RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND</b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period</b>	\$8,128	\$9,309	\$6,633	\$6,637	\$8,304
<b>Income, total</b>	53	1,681	3,501	10,614	10,210
Contributions	53	1,681	3,501	10,506	10,048
Interest on investments	.....	.....	.....	109	162
<b>Outgo, total</b>	186	2,862	825	9,256	14,263
Administrative expenses	186	2,862	825	9,256	7,655
Transfers to RUI Account	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,608
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	7,995	8,128	9,309	7,995	4,251

<sup>1</sup> Net of distributed amounts.

**NOTE**.--(Continued from previous page.)

BENEFIT PAYMENTS are on a cash basis (unaudited) and represent amounts paid during the period including retroactive payments, less recoveries distributed to beneficiary accounts, refunds, and cancellations of previous payments.

ADMINISTRATION FUND balances reflect current adjustments to income and disbursements for previous years.

All unemployment and sickness data relate to CALENDAR MONTHS.

**Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.**

<b>Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- March 2005</b>
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**RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR**

<b>Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)</b>	\$770,776,000
Regular benefits	756,623,000
Vested dual benefits	8,897,000
Supplemental annuities	5,256,000

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>Total benefits being paid at end of month</b>	727,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	286,000	\$1,712
Supplemental	125,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	141,000	638
Aged widows' and widowers'	143,000	1,053
Other survivors'	33,000	778
<b>Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month</b>	595,000	.....

**UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS**

	<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>Sickness</b>
<b>Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)</b>	\$3,281,000	\$3,522,000
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	3,800	6,100
<b>Average payment per week</b>	\$276	\$277